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Claims

1. A method to treat a mammalian subject for a condition benefited by stimulating hair growth which method comprises administering to said mammalian subject in  
5 need of such treatment an effective amount of a compound that inhibits the activity of NF- $\kappa$ B or that inhibits proteasomal activity or that inhibits production of these proteins.

2. The method of claim 1 wherein said compound inhibits proteasomal activity or that inhibits production of proteasome proteins.

10 3. The method of claim 2 wherein said compound is lactacystin or a peptidyl aldehyde.

15 4. A pharmaceutical composition for treating for a condition benefited by stimulating hair growth which composition comprises a compound that inhibits the activity of NF- $\kappa$ B or that inhibits proteasomal activity or that inhibits production of these proteins.

20 5. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 4 wherein said compound is lactacystin or a peptidyl aldehyde.

6. A method to identify a compound which stimulates hair growth which method comprises subjecting said compound to an assay for determining its ability to inhibit NF- $\kappa$ B activity, whereby a compound which inhibits the activity of NF- $\kappa$ B is identified as a compound which enhances hair growth; or

25 subjecting said compound to an assay for determining its ability to inhibit the production of NF- $\kappa$ B, whereby a compound which inhibits the production of NF- $\kappa$ B is identified as a compound which enhances hair growth; or

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subjecting a candidate compound to an assay to assess its ability to inhibit proteasomal activity, whereby a compound which inhibits proteasomal activity is identified as a compound that enhances hair growth; or

- 5     subjecting a candidate compound to an assay to assess its ability to inhibit the production of enzymes with proteasomal activity, whereby a compound which inhibits the production of enzymes with proteasomal activity is identified as a compound that enhances hair growth.

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